

1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
3 NASHVILLE DIVISION

4 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, }
5 }
6 }
7 } Case No.
8 } 3:18-cr-00304-1
9 } CHIEF JUDGE CRENSHAW
10 }

11 BEFORE THE HONORABLE
12 CHIEF DISTRICT JUDGE WAVERLY D. CRENSHAW, JR.

13 EXCERPT OF PROCEEDINGS

14 June 7, 2019

15 APPEARANCES:

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1 (Proceedings reported but not transcribed.)

2 THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, I stand here today
3 very humbled before you.

4 Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought
5 that one day I would be in front of a federal judge to be
6 sentenced for a crime involving my profession that's been my
7 life's work. This experience has taught me I must replace my
8 pride with humility, a process I began when I decided to
9 plead guilty.

10 I understand there is a season in every life for
11 repentance and contrition, and this is mine. I also
12 understand that acceptance of the punishment which I will
13 receive today from the Court is essential for reconciliation
14 with my community and justice for the taxpayers and others
15 that have been hurt by my conduct.

16 The facts in the Information are true. As you
17 might imagine, I've spent a great deal of time considering
18 how I got to this point and how I can learn from this
19 experience.

20 My business started as an effort to grow and
21 expand my dental practice through extended hours and a
22 seven-day-a-week service to what I perceived to be
23 under-served communities. This gave way to rapid expansion
24 with no real plan for managing the business in compliance
25 with the law. This rapid growth of the business without

1 regard for the consequences was fueled by my addictive
2 personality, which itself has caused other challenges in my
3 life. I convinced myself it would all work out despite a
4 lack of infrastructure, and I wrongly believed that someone
5 else would watch the details of the business, when that was
6 my responsibility. This is not an excuse, but an effort to
7 explain how I got here.

8 As the owner of the dental practice, my failing
9 resulted in billing fraud. These failings are mine and mine
10 alone. I take full responsibility for the resulting
11 consequences. My behavior was driven by the misguided notion
12 I needed to do those things to be a great success as a
13 dentist and as a person. What I have learned from this
14 experience and what I have learned again today from my
15 family, from my friends and from many of my patients, is how
16 wrong I was about that.

17 To those who have appeared here today to explain
18 to the Court the impact of my conduct, I want you to know I
19 am profoundly sorry for the pain and the difficulty that my
20 actions have caused you and your family. There's no excuse
21 for what I did. I wish I had made better choices that would
22 have spared you the pain that my actions caused.

23 As the Court is aware, I've surrendered my dental
24 license. It is painful to know that I will never practice as
25 a dentist again because of how much I loved helping people.

1 However, losing my license is one of the many reasons I can
2 assure the Court I will never commit a similar offense.

3 I plan to be as active as I can in helping others
4 while in prison and have considered how I can mentor or
5 assist in educating fellow inmates during my time in prison.
6 I've helped people through the years because helping others
7 helped me come to terms with some things in my own past. I
8 look forward to continuing to work to help others.

9 I also understand the importance of making
10 restitution for these crimes. As my lawyers have explained,
11 I've been working hard on making restitution since well
12 before the government ever brought the charges against me.
13 And I will continue to make this the highest priority.

14 I'm sorry to my beautiful and supportive family,
15 especially my wife Nancy and my four children, whom I love
16 with all my heart.

17 I want to stress to the Court I'm sorry for what I
18 have done and for those whom I've hurt. My profound remorse
19 is beyond words. I'm deeply committed to making amends for
20 what I have done.

21 Thank you for this opportunity to address you.

22 (Proceedings reported but not transcribed.)

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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3 I, Lise S. Matthews, Official Court Reporter for
4 the United States District Court for the Middle District of
5 Tennessee, with offices at Nashville, do hereby certify:

6 That I reported on the Stenograph machine the
7 excerpt of proceedings held in open court on
8 November 19, 2019, in the matter of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
9 v. RICHARD N. SCHOTT, Case No. 3:18-cr-00304-1; that said
10 proceedings in connection with the hearing were reduced to
11 typewritten form by me; and that the foregoing transcript
12 (pages 1 through 4) is a true and accurate record of said
13 proceedings.

14 This the 20th day of November, 2019.

15

16 /s/ Lise S. Matthews
17 LISE S. MATTHEWS, RMR, CRR, CRC
18 Official Court Reporter

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